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To be RPS- eligible, the power plant must "use" a renewable fuel:

PRC 25741. (a) "Renewable electrical generation facility" means a facility that meets all of the following criteria:

(1) The facility **uses** biomass, solar thermal, photovoltaic, wind, geothermal, fuel cells using renewable fuels, small hydroelectric generation of 30 megawatts or less, **digester gas**, municipal solid waste conversion, **landfill gas**, ocean wave, ocean thermal, or tidal current, and any additions or enhancements to the facility using that technology.

RECs are created only when electricity is generated from a renewable fuel:

PUC 399.12 (h) (1) "Renewable energy credit" means a certificate of proof associated with the **generation of electricity from an eligible renewable energy resource**, issued through the accounting system established by the Energy Commission pursuant to Section 399.25, that **one unit of electricity was generated and delivered by an eligible renewable energy resource**.

RECs are not created from generation of electricity by non-renewable fuels:

PUC 399.12 (h)(3) (A) Any electricity generated by an eligible renewable energy resource attributable to the use of nonrenewable fuels, beyond a de minimis quantity used to generate electricity in the same process through which the facility converts renewable fuel to electricity, shall not result in the creation of a renewable energy credit...